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SECURITY INFORMATION

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4 August 1952

Assistant Director for Research and Reports

General

1. In spite of the telecon and cable facilities it is very helpful to have a round-up report from you by dispatch. It probably would be of little value to set a periodic dateline on such a report, for the time being, either from us to you or from you to us. We will try, however, to keep you abreast of events more regularly than we have and meanwhile appreciate comments from you. The additional ORR team members who are to join you in the fall are: [redacted] (from D/I/Air who has been with that branch since January 1951 and who was formerly with [redacted]; [redacted] (who has been working in the Economic Services Division on foreign trade); and [redacted] (now working in D/I/Capital Goods on mining machinery). They will probably arrive sometime in September or October, inasmuch as six weeks' [redacted] training is now a required preliminary to going overseas.

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2. It is apparent from talks with [redacted] that our view of the telecon facilities is perhaps somewhat at variance from that held by your group. We have been told by the OGI management that only those matters which are urgent can be put on the telecon and that anything else should be by dispatch or cable. Our own view is that the telecon facilities are (1) a point of coordination on current intelligence with OGI, (2) a device which should be expanded for exploring information available in your area which might not otherwise come to our notice or which would be too costly to explore by means of personal visit. As specifics come up we intend to clarify this with OGI and meanwhile very much appreciate your lengthy, detailed, and thorough reporting.

3. In view of the heavy analysis load you are carrying, we are wondering if the telecon could not be used to better advantage in assisting you to make these analyses. If, for instance, you receive a report on the ODR budget, could you not put on the telecon some of the vital statistics along with your questions regarding them? We could then have [redacted] analysts evaluate them and put the answer on the next telecon. Another approach might be for you to cable, in advance of the telecon, subjects on which you need assistance, and we could have the appropriate analysts at the telecon meeting to discuss the matters with you. Perhaps this procedure would relieve you of some of the evaluation burden and give you more time to carry on your guidance activities with the various collection groups. In accordance with your suggestion we will try to get items for you into the agenda cable prior to the telecon meeting.

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4. We were very happy to hear about your work on the [REDACTED] reports, but for your information the [REDACTED] reports are considered here as being very sensitive and highly classified.

25X1A5a1 5. Sorry that the [REDACTED] matter grew to such proportions but you apparently have handled it very well and it is now closed out.

6. If you find time in your next report it would be very helpful to know what kind of a routine from day-to-day workload might be expected of the additional ORR membership, and also any details about actual or suspected caches of intelligence source material which should be explored. This latter concern develops from a suspicion on the part of some of our branches that much valuable intelligence is not getting through the published and official channels. This was one reason for requesting on the telecon further information concerning the ID material. The Office program, at this point, consists of cleaning up all the projects now on order by 1 September preparatory to holding a new inventory and setting up an 18 months to 2 year research program. Any thoughts that you may have in terms of priorities on major questions that must be answered and gaps that must be filled will be welcome. Your associates send their best regards and wish you luck.

7. Your projected visit 25 [REDACTED] should be a profitable one. 25X1A No doubt you will be contacting [REDACTED] as well as [REDACTED] 25X1A It is suggested that you time your trip to go with [REDACTED] of the 25X1A9a OGD microfilm team and ask him to introduce you to [REDACTED] 25X1A9a These contacts may prove profitable in procuring special publications. We are sending you a copy of [REDACTED] 25X1A9a [REDACTED] report on his European document search which may give some helpful hints in your travels.

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8. You write of the expected arrival shortly of a clerk-secretary. Presumably this represents one of the OCI group since ORR is not sending any clerks. However, [REDACTED] is a junior analyst who understands that some of her work will be in support of your mission.

ROBERT ARONY, JR.

Enclosure: Report of European Trip by [REDACTED]

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